

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6134**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1358

**NOTE PREPARED:** Nov 1, 2004

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Rubella Test.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Brown C

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**     **GENERAL**  
                              **DEDICATED**  
                              **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** Local

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill repeals the requirement that a woman less than 50 years of age applying for a marriage license must be examined by a physician and tested for rubella. It also makes conforming changes.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2005.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** This provision should have no fiscal impact on the state.

*Background:* Rubella, also known as “German measles” or “3-day measles”, is a mild viral illness. Its significance lies, not in the problems it causes children, but rather in the significant congenital defects it may cause in infants whose mothers were exposed during pregnancy.

The first vaccine for rubella was licensed in 1969. The combination measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine was first licensed in 1971. That same year, the state of Indiana added the requirement that all school children entering Grade 1 be immunized for rubella, excepting certain circumstances (P.L. 321-1971). Subsequently, the number of reported cases of rubella have declined to the point that in 2003, the State Department of Health reported that there has not been a reported case in the state since 1999. Nationally, in 2003, 5 cases were reported. With the exception of persons who have entered the United States as adults, most individuals under the age of 40 have high rates of immunity. In addition, routine screening of pregnant women for proof of immunity is a recommended medical practice.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** Currently, clerks of the court must ascertain that the proper documentation demonstrating immunity to rubella is presented with the marriage license application. The paper work is then maintained in the clerk's files.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** State Department of Health.

**Local Agencies Affected:** Local clerks of court.

**Information Sources:** Zach Cattell, Legislative Liaison, Indiana State Department of Health, (317) 233-2170; Dax Denton, the Association of Indiana Counties, (317) 684-3710; and the National Network for Immunization Information at; [www.immunizationinfo.org/vaccineInfo/vaccine\\_detail.cfv?id=24](http://www.immunizationinfo.org/vaccineInfo/vaccine_detail.cfv?id=24).

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